

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4138

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN, BG

SUBJ: PAK NEWSMAN CHARGES INDIAN OBSTRUCTION AT DELHI TRIPARTITE
MEETING

REF: ISLAMABAD 3300

1. GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PAKISTAN TIMES APRIL 8
CARRIED HEADLINE ARTICLE BY DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
H.K. BURKI ASSERTING THAT DELHI TRIPARTITE TALKS
"HAD REACHED A DEADLOCK" AND THAT INDIA WAS LARGELY
TO BLAME. BURKI, ONE OF NEWSMEN WHO ACCOMPANIED PAK
DELEGATION TO DELHI, CLAIMED IN DELHI-DATELINED STORY THAT
BANGLADESH DELEGATION "OBVIOUSLY ENCOURAGED BY INDIA" HAD PROPOSED
AT FIRST MEETING THAT (A) AN INTERNATIONAL AGENCY DETERMINE
ELIGIBILITY OF SOME 300,000 NON-BENGALIS IN BANGLA-
DESH TO MOVE TO PAKISTAN AND (B) PAKISTAN GIVE CLEAR
GUARANTEE THAT IT WOULD PUT THE 195 POWS ON TRIAL FOR
WAR CRIMES ONCE THEY WERE RETURNED TO PAKISTAN.

2. BURKI CHARGED THAT GOI WAS USING INDIAN PRESS IN
AN EFFORT TO BUILD UP A CASE THAT DISAGREEMENTS WHICH
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HAD EMERGED AT TALKS WERE BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND

BANGLADESH. ACTUALLY, BURKI WROTE, BANGLADESH FOREIGN MINISTER "WHO HAS BEEN TUTORED AND IS BEING CHAPERONED BY THE INDIANS" IS MAKING DEMANDS ON BEHALF OF INDIANS THAT LATTER ARE IN NO POSITION TO MAKE THEMSELVES BECAUSE THEY "CLEARLY VIOLATE" 1973 DELHI AGREEMENT.

3. COMMENT: HARD TO TELL WHETHR BURKI'S CHARGES HAVE BEEN INSPIRED BY PAK DELEGATION. GOP OFFICIALS HAVE USED BURKI ON NUMBER OF OCCASIONS TO FLOAT STORIES THEY WANT AIRED. ON OTHER OCCASIONS, HOWEVER, BURKI HAS BEEN FAR OFF BASE. EXAMPLE OF LATTER OCCURRED IN AUGUST 1973 AT CONCLUSION OF RAWALPINDI TALKS, WHEN BURKI HEADLINE ARTICLE CHARGED INDIAN CHIEF DELEGATE WITH DELIBERATE FALSEHOOD, ONLY TO HAVE MINSTATE AZIZ AHMED ISSUE OFFICIAL STATEMENT SAME DAY REFUTING HIS CHARGE.
BYROADE

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Message Attributes

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